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LETTER DATED 25 JULY 1994 FROM THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GERMANY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the European Union I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a declaration by the European Union on Rwanda, issued on 22 July 1994.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gerhard HENZE
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on Rwanda

The European Union (EU) reiterates its abhorrence at the killings and the plight of millions of Rwandan refugees and people displaced internally, who face a situation of hunger, disease and death. The EU will try its utmost to ease the suffering of the affected Rwandan population and hopes for a general world-wide response regarding support for Rwanda. Apart from the significant bilateral contributions of its member States, the EU has already provided substantial humanitarian assistance, amounting to about 200 million ECUs since October 1993, in favour of the population of Rwanda and neighbouring countries. In addition, the Commission has released over 22 million ECUs in recent days, and is negotiating with ACP States the release within the next week of a part of residual funds from the European Development Fund.

The EU urges countries neighbouring Rwanda to play a constructive role by exercising their influence on the conflict parties to find a political solution to the crisis. In this context the EU takes note of the formation of a new Government in Kigali, which comprises various political groups. The EU appeals to the political forces to work together in the spirit of the Arusha Agreement and calls upon all parties of good faith to participate in a broad-based democratic administration representative of all forces of moderation and commanding the broad support of the Rwandan people. The EU expects that all means will be taken by the new Government to allay the fears of the population and to persuade them to return to their homes. The EU also believes that those responsible for the crimes against humanity of recent months should be subject to due process of law.

It will be a difficult task to bring about national reconciliation, to reconstruct the destroyed physical infrastructure and to lay the ground for a return to normal life for all citizens traumatized by a civil war with unprecedented massacres. The EU is ready to support the new Government in its efforts to rebuild the country. It urges the deployment of the expanded United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) as rapidly as possible. The EU applauds the untiring work of the non-governmental and United Nations organizations in Rwanda as well as the efforts of UNAMIR and France, which have saved the lives of countless Rwandans.